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\*ARMY Declass/Release  
Instructions On File\*

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WDGHI/

### Essential Elements of Information

#### SUMMARY

1. Paragraph 11 b, FM 30-5, requires every military commander, to designate Essential Elements of Information required in order to make decisions and formulate plans. Therefore, the AC of S, G-2 of the War Department General Staff should periodically submit to the Chief of Staff a recommended statement of Essential Elements of Information.

2. The recommended Essential Elements of Information from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ are inclosed (Tab A). These Essential Elements are broad statements of strategic intelligence required to enable the War Department to make sound policy decisions and to prepare War Department plans. The major intelligence interests of the War Department, as known to all General Staff Divisions, are fully covered by these Essential Elements.

#### 3. Action recommended:

That the Chief of Staff:

- a. Approve the current Essential Elements of Information (Tab A).
- b. Return these papers to the AC of S, G-2 for necessary implementing action.

#### COORDINATION:

Concur - G-1, ( )  
G-3, ( )  
G-4, ( )  
OPD, ( )

1 Incl:  
Tab A

CLAYTON BISSELL  
Major General, OSC  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

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WDDBI/ 312

### Essential Elements of Information

#### SUMMARY

1. In accordance with paragraph 11 b, FM 30-5, it is the duty of every military commander, assisted by his Chief of Staff and G-2, to designate Essential Elements of Intelligence Information required by the Commander in order to make decisions and formulate plans. Therefore, the AG of S, G-2 of the War Department General Staff should periodically submit to the Chief of Staff a recommended statement of Essential Elements of Information.

2. The recommended Essential Elements of Information from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ are inclosed (Tab A). These Essential Elements are broad statements of strategic intelligence required to enable the War Department to make sound policy decisions and to prepare War Department plans. The major intelligence interests of the War Department, as known to all General Staff Divisions, are fully covered by these Essential Elements.

3. In addition, for the information of the Chief of Staff, there is attached a report (Tab B) of the action taken by the Military Intelligence Service on the previous report of Essential Elements of Information which you approved on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

#### 4. Action recommended:

That the Chief of Staff:

a. Approve the current Essential Elements of Information (Tab A)

b. Return these papers to the AG of S, G-2 for necessary implementing action.

#### COORDINATION:

Concur - G-1, ( )  
 G-3, ( )  
 G-4, ( )  
 GFD, ( )

#### 2 Incls:

Tab A - Essential Elements of Information  
 Tab B - Report of Action Taken

CLAYTON BISSELL  
 Major General, GSC  
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

SAMPLE

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**TAB A**

**SAMPLE**

**WAR DEPARTMENT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD**

**\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

1. What are the implications and dangers involved in regard to:
  - a. The Soviet - Iranian situation
  - b. The Soviet - Turkish situation
  - c. The Soviet - Chinese - Chinese Communist situation
  - d. Soviet developments in all Western European Countries to include:
    - (1) Activities of the Free Germany Committee
    - (2) Political and economic orientation.
  - e. Soviet intentions concerning Spitzberger, Bornholm and similar Scandinavian areas.
2. What are the implications and dangers involved in French opposition to the administrative unification of Germany?
3. What is the present situation and outlook in the food, fuel and health conditions in Western European Countries?
4. What extra-hemispheric influences are operating within the Western Hemisphere which will tend to nullify U. S. military policy and plans for that area?
5. What nations are capable of and may be expected to develop within two years:
  - a. Practical methods of biological warfare.
  - b. Guided missiles capable of accurately bombarding U.S. cities from overseas terrestrial launching sites? Ship-borne launching devices? Air-borne launching devices?
  - c. Explosives based on release of atomic energy.
6. What are the possibilities of unfavorable developments as far as U.S. military policy is concerned in the current Yugoslavian-Italian controversy over Venezia-Guilia?

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SAMPLE

SAMPLE

**ACTION TAKEN ON ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION  
APPROVED BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF ON (date)**

1. a. ELEMENT: What are the implications and dangers involved in Nazi infiltration of political and military agencies in the Western Hemisphere?

b. ACTION TAKEN: Collecting agencies given the appropriate directive. Important information received from Latin America and strategic estimate prepared (date); disseminated to: Chief of Staff, GPD, G-2, State and White House.

2. a. ELEMENT: What are the implications of the present strife in China between the communists and nationalists.

b. ACTION TAKEN: Pertinent study received from G-2, China Theater, (date) in collaboration with State and Navy, a strategic estimate was prepared and disseminated to GPD, G-2, CG, ASF, CG, AAF, Chief, Naval Intelligence and State Department.

3. a. ELEMENT: What is the importance from a military point of view of the infiltration of Attu and Kiska by Japanese fishermen.

b. ACTION TAKEN: Collecting agency given appropriate directive. No conclusive information received to date.

4. \* \* \* \* \*

5. \* \* \* \* \*

6. \* \* \* \* \*

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